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President Boakai Holds Talk With IFAD President to Strengthen Liberia's Agricultural Sector Development

On the sidelines of the 38th African Union Summit in Addis Ababa, President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, Sr., reaffirmed Liberia's commitment to agricultural transformation and food security during a high-level meeting with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) President Mr. Alvaro Lario.



He expressed appreciation for IFAD's continuous support, including the establishment of an IFAD Office in Liberia in 2023 and the appointment of the first Country Representative covering Liberia and Sierra Leone.

The President commended IFAD for its IFAD 13 allocation of over \$50 million, which is set to strengthen Liberia's agro-food system from 2026 onward. To demonstrate Liberia's commitment to agricultural development, he announced a \$100,000 contribution to IFAD 13, assuring that the payment will be made on time. Mr. Lario welcomed this pledge, emphasizing that it underscores Liberia's dedication to the sector. [Read more on this story](#)

LACRA Launches Five-Month Radio Campaign on Cocoa Pricing and Quality Control

The Liberia Agriculture Commodity Regulatory Authority (LACRA) has launched a five-month radio campaign to educate cocoa farmers and stakeholders about fair pricing, quality control, and sustainable practices in the cocoa industry. This campaign, which will be broadcast on 11 community radio stations across 6 counties, marks a significant step towards strengthening the cocoa sector in Liberia.

The initiative, which is part of LACRA's efforts to enhance the livelihoods of cocoa farmers and ensure the sustainability of the industry, will focus on providing vital information to farmers about the current cocoa market, best practices in quality control, and the regulatory frameworks in place to safeguard the sector. The radio campaign is designed to reach farmers in remote and rural areas, where

access to information about cocoa pricing and quality control mechanisms is often limited.



LACRA's Director General, Christopher Sankolo speaking at the launch event, emphasized the importance of this campaign in fostering a transparent, fair, and competitive cocoa market in Liberia. *"This campaign will not only provide farmers with the tools to improve the quality of their cocoa but will also help them understand the pricing mechanisms that affect their earnings. Our goal is to empower cocoa farmers with the knowledge they need to thrive in the global market,"* said the Director General. [Read more on this development](#)

MOA Enters Partnership with Panta Pride for Development of a 500-Acre Lowland Rice Project in Bong

The Panta Pride Foundation, in partnership with Collective Impact United and the Liberian government, through the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), has formalized an agreement to develop a 500-acre lowland rice farming project in Panta District, Bong County.



Panta Pride Foundation will serve as the in-country research and development partner for Collective Impact United. At the signing ceremony, Dr. J. Alexander Nuetah, Liberia's Agriculture Minister, emphasized that the initiative seeks to improve food security, empower women in agriculture, and

encourage sustainable economic growth in Liberia.

[Read more on this development](#)

Bomi County Embarks on Ambitious Agriculture Initiative to Enhance Food Security

In a bid to bolster food production and foster sustainable development, Bomi County in western Liberia has embarked on an agriculture initiative known as the Bomi Agriculture Program (BAP) 2025. Covering five administrative districts, each district has committed to dedicating one hundred hectares of farmland annually to this project.



Aligned with Liberia’s national agenda for sustainable development, the BAP 2025 is a strategic effort crafted by local officials to elevate agricultural output across the county. Speaking on the initiative, Bomi Administrative Officer Alphonso Sherman emphasized its pivotal role in achieving local food self-sufficiency goals. “This five-year plan is crucial for our county’s journey towards food security,” Sherman stated. [Read more](#)

Young Agricultural Researcher Develops New Cowpea Variety in Nimba

In Nimba County, a young agricultural researcher, D Marker Gbarwee, is significantly impacting agriculture. Gbarwee, currently pursuing a BSc in General Agriculture at Liberia International Christian College, has spent the past eight years researching the potential of cowpea, a staple crop in the region. His efforts have culminated in the development of the Markpea, a new, highly resilient variety of cowpea that promises to address pressing issues such as climate change and food insecurity in Liberia.



The Markpea variety, named in honor of Gbarwee’s innovative work, is a testament to his dedication to improving local agriculture. This new variety stands out due to its exceptional adaptability and resilience, making it a vital crop for farmers facing the unpredictable challenges posed by changing weather patterns. [Read more about this development in Liberia’s agriculture sector.](#)

Zuritala Rice Multiplication Research Shows Positive Outcomes at Gbarnga Site

Mr. Isaac Flomo Sulonteh, the founder and Executive Director of Zuritala Rice Multiplication, has officially commenced the harvest of three newly multiplied rice varieties that he began working on in 2023.

According to Mr. Sulonteh, the three varieties—temporarily designated X1, X2, and X3—were planted on November 9, 2024. The official harvest was initially scheduled for February 10, 2025, but was delayed due to his busy schedule. The process finally began on Sunday, February 16, 2025, with the harvesting of Variety X2.



Starting with just three seeds of each variety, Mr. Sulonteh successfully multiplied them at his Zuritala Multiplication Site in the Rubber Factory Community, Gbarnga. [Click the link to read more](#)

Agro Links Enterprise Inc. and Partners Conclude Agriculture Trade Fair in Kakata, Margibi County

Agro Links Enterprise Inc., in partnership with various stakeholders, concluded a highly successful two-day agriculture trade fair in Kakata, which drew attention to the importance of agriculture as a cornerstone of Liberia’s economy.

The event brought together farmers, agricultural businesses, and other key players to showcase innovations, promote sustainable farming practices, and foster collaboration within the sector.



Held at the old Aminata Gas Station on Kakata's main street, the fair attracted farmers from Compound, Gibi District, and other parts of Rural Montserrado County.

The goal of the trade fair was to strengthen cooperation among local agricultural communities and spark greater interest in the sector's role in driving Liberia's economic growth. [Read more on this story](#)

CDA Empowers Five Agriculture Cooperatives in Bomi with Essential Farming Tools

In a move aimed at bolstering agricultural productivity, the Government of Liberia, through the Cooperative Development Agency (CDA), has delivered vital farming implements to more than two hundred farmers across five cooperatives in Bomi County.



The distribution, held on Saturday, February 22nd, 2025, seeks to empower smallholder farmers and enhance their self-sufficiency in food production. Madam Edwina J. Boima, Deputy Registrar at the Cooperative Development Agency, emphasized that this initiative forms part of the government's ongoing commitment to agricultural advancement in the region. She highlighted the significance of these tools in enabling farmers to optimize their yields and

improve their economic standing. [Click the link to read more on this story](#)

Big Boost for Lofa Farmers as MOA and Local Leaders Join Forces to Cultivate 975 Hectares

The Ministry of Agriculture's (MOA) Lofa County office has wrapped up a one-day Agriculture Coordination Conference (ACC), bringing together key stakeholders, including youth leaders and district commissioners, to assess progress, tackle challenges, and explore solutions for improving agricultural productivity in the region



During the meeting, participants shared updates on their achievements, highlighted ongoing issues, and presented recommendations for immediate government action to enhance farming outcomes.

County Agriculture Coordinator (CAC) Abass Mark Biaty revealed that the conference centered on the National Agriculture Development Plan (NADP) and the government's 2025 Action Plan, which aims to cultivate 6,500 hectares of lowland across Liberia to bolster food security and drive economic growth. Lofa County, widely regarded as Liberia's agricultural hub, has been allocated 975 hectares under this initiative. [Click to follow this story](#)

LIFAI and IFAD Discuss Potential Partnership to Boost Agricultural Development

In a move to strengthen Liberia's agricultural sector and tackle food insecurity, the Liberians Feed Yourself Agriculture Initiative (LIFAI-Inc) has engaged in a strategic discussion with the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to explore opportunities for partnership and investment.

According to the CEO of the group, James Kollie Galakpai meeting convened in Tinsue Town, Salayea District, and Lofa County on February 9,

2025, focused on expanding agricultural initiatives, particularly in lowland rice production, and increasing support for women and youth in farming.



Mr. Galakpai indicated that the discussions emphasized the need for LIFAI-Inc to intensify efforts in lowland rice production while creating more opportunities for women and young people to engage in sustainable agriculture. According to him, IFAD also encouraged LIFAI-Inc to structure its programs to align with IFAD's policies, ensuring access to financial and technical support. [Read more on this](#)

San-Kwadoo Agriculture Cooperative Leads the Charge for Food Security in Nimba County

The San-Kwadoo Agriculture Cooperative in Sahnpa, Blinon Administrative District is making significant strides in improving food security in Nimba County through innovative farming practices and community-driven agricultural initiatives. The cooperative, established by local farmers, has become a model of resilience and productivity, boosting livelihoods and reinforcing the agricultural sector as a pillar of economic growth in the region.



Spearheading this initiative is Mr. Newah Behnzukeh, an ambitious agriculturalist with a passion for community development. After earning his Bachelor's degree in Agriculture in 2022, Mr. Behnzukeh returned to his hometown with a clear vision: to build a sustainable agricultural system that would uplift both Sahnpa and the surrounding regions. [Read more by clicking](#)

Maryland County Youths Lead Agricultural Revitalization Efforts

In a bold move to reshape the economic landscape of Maryland County, young people are leading efforts to revitalize the agricultural sector, defying the notion that Liberia's youth are solely focused on politics for personal gain.

Spearheaded by the Maryland Youth Development Association (MYDA), this movement is championing local rice production to combat food insecurity and promote self-sufficiency in the county.



For years, many young Liberians have been drawn to politics, often swayed by short-term incentives. However, MYDA's initiative is rewriting this narrative by demonstrating that youth can play a pivotal role in community development through agriculture. [Read more on this development from Maryland County.](#)

ECOWAS Commission and Tutumu Agriculture Vocational Training Center Empower 150 Youths in Agroecology

The ECOWAS Commission, in partnership with the Tutumu Agriculture and Vocational Training Center, has successfully concluded a week-long agroecology training program for 150 young individuals in Salala District, Bong County. The training aimed to equip participants with essential knowledge and practical skills in sustainable farming, including pig production, soil conservation, and climate-smart agricultural practices.



Director Prince Kromah stated that the training, held ahead of the center's official reopening in March, was designed to equip participants with both theoretical knowledge and practical skills in various aspects of agriculture. The course covered topics such as pig production, soil conservation, farming practices, and climate-smart agriculture, all aimed at enhancing the participants' capacity to contribute to the agricultural sector. [Read more](#)

Ministry of Agriculture Donates Power Tiller to Bong County Technical College

As part of boosting agricultural education in Liberia, the Government of Liberia (GOL), through the Ministry of Agriculture, has donated a brand-new power tiller to the administration of the Bong County Technical College (BCTC).



The donation according to the Ministry aims to enhance the operational efficiency of the college's Agriculture Department, the only government-run Technical College agriculture program in Bong County.

At the official handover ceremony to the Department of Agriculture, Dr. Alfredson W. Tarkerweyah, President of BCTC, expressed gratitude to the Government of Liberia for its timely support. [Read more on this donation](#)

WALCENTAI Launches Agriculture Training Program in Bomi County

The West Africa Learning Center for No-Till Agriculture International (WALCENTAI) has launched a specialized training program in Bomi County, aimed at equipping farmers with innovative no-till agricultural practices. This initiative seeks to empower mainly youth with technical skills and knowledge in crop and animal production.

Providing an overview of the program, WALCENTAI's Country Representative, Mr. Sylvester Kpai, emphasized that the organization was established to bridge the technical capacity gap among Liberians, ensuring a positive impact on young people's lives for sustainable development and growth.



Mr. Kpai expressed gratitude to the people of Bomi County for providing land for the construction of the school. He announced that the institution will offer a one-year diploma program in practical agriculture, enabling students to make meaningful contributions to Liberia's agricultural development. [Read more](#)

Farmers in Gbarlin Clan, Salayea District Plead with Government for Concrete Bridge

A multi-purpose farming group in Salayea District is urgently calling on the government of Liberia to address the critical need for a concrete bridge to connect the Gbarlin clan, a key agricultural hub in the region.



The Gbarlin clan, home to the last remaining mature forest trunk in Salayea District, is also the leading agricultural zone among its neighboring clans. The residents are predominantly engaged in subsistence and cash crop farming, including rice, pepper, bitter ball, plantain, vegetables, cocoa, coffee, palm trees, and fish farming. [Read more on this development](#)

Suakoko Chiefdom Embarks on Communal Farming Initiatives to Combat Food Insecurity

To address the growing concern of food insecurity in the region, Suakoko Chiefdom has officially launched communal farming initiatives. This move is part of a larger push to reduce Liberia's dependency on imported food and ensure that local communities can produce their sustenance.

Hon. Bennie Vio, the Paramount Chief of Suakoko Chiefdom, expressed deep concern about Liberia's ongoing struggles to achieve food self-sufficiency. He pointed out the increasing prevalence of hunger across the country as a major issue that needs urgent attention. **“We can no longer continue relying on imported food. Many of these foods are unsafe for consumption,”** he stated.

The initiative will see community members working together to establish farming sites in all three clans within the Chiefdom: Kpatawee, Suakoko, and Kpoyorquelleh. The first steps have already been taken, with preparations underway for land clearing and identification of suitable areas for planting.

Communal farming, a collective farming practice where members of a community collaborate on a single piece of land, is expected to significantly boost local food production. Chief Vio stressed the importance of this initiative in ensuring that the community has access to organic produce, including rice and other vegetables. He remarked, “Produce from the farms will be sold to the Chiefdom's

inhabitants to make sure our people have organic rice and other vegetables. We are tired of the white rice



In addition to addressing food insecurity, the communal farming project aims to strengthen community bonds, fostering collaboration and unity among the residents of Suakoko Chiefdom.

The initiative was announced during an interview with Chief Vio in Gokai Town, where he shared his hopes for the success of the project and its potential to serve as a model for other regions in Liberia.

[Read more on this development](#)

Promotion



Spotlighting and Amplifying Women's Voices in Liberia's Agriculture Sector Development

As we celebrate International Women's Day in March, Liberia Agricultural and Environmental Journalists Network (LAEJN) will take the month to recognize and amplify the invaluable contributions of women to Liberia's agriculture by writing impact stories about women and for women in Agriculture.



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